


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P/63736/GPTU63		FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/051034		International filing date (day/month/year) 04.06.2004		Priority date (day/month/year) 04.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05K13/04, H05K3/30				
Applicant MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS GMBH et al.				
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand 16.03.2005			Date of completion of this report 30.06.2005	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465			Authorized Officer Telephone No. +49 89 2399-	

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**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/051034

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Description, Pages

1-14 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-11 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	2-7,9,10
	No: Claims	1,8,11
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-11
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-11
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

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Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Reference is made to the following documents:
D1: US-A-2002/0184755
D2: DE-A-196 10 294
D3: EP-A-1 161 129.
2. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 8, and 11 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses a method for automatically placing components of a circuit on a base plate based on predefined position data. The method known from D1 comprises the following steps (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

- a) detecting the position of at least one reference mark formed at the base plate (see reference signs 92, 364, and 370 in Figs. 1, 2, 9, and 10 and the accompanying text in paragraphs [0146] to [0153] and [0186] to [0195]);
- b) calculating a target position for placing a substrate on the base plate based on the detected position of the first reference mark and the predefined position data for said substrate and placing the substrate at the calculated position (see paragraphs [0199] to [0246] and Figs. 11 to 16);
- c) detecting the position of at least one second reference mark formed at the substrate (see reference signs 60, 104 and 106 in Figs. 1 and 2 and paragraphs [0158] to [0163]);
- d) calculating a target position for placing a further component on the substrate based on the detected position of the second reference mark and the predefined position data for said component, and placing the component at the calculated target position (see paragraphs [0199] to [0246] and Figs. 11 to 16).

Moreover, the components are circuit components and the steps a) to d) are carried out while the base plate is located at the same placing machine (see the abstract and Fig. 1).

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(SEPARATE SHEET)**

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Therefore, D1 shows all of the features of present claims 1, 8, and 11.

3. Dependent claims 2 to 7 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), see documents D2 and D3 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.
4. The further features of dependent claims 9 and 10 and are merely straightforward possibilities from which the skilled person would select, in accordance with circumstances, without the exercise of inventive skill, in order to solve the problem posed. Therefore, the subject-matter of these claims cannot be considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

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